

**CITY OF AUBURN
TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

Thursday, March 11, 2010
Auburn City Hall - Room 10, 2nd floor
1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn, CA 95603

MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by Chair Glenn Tonkin. Present: Commissioners Tonkin, Mercurio, Owens, Preston, Schredl (quorum present).

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

Schredl moved, Owens seconded, approved unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commission reviewed minutes of the Regular meeting of February 11, 2010 and made minor revisions: In Item 5.A.d.ii "presenting the proposal" changed to "presenting a proposal", and Item 5.B changed to "Tonkin met with the County on February 5th. Placer Co. is planning to upgrade existing PEG stations. They are pursuing Homeland Security funding. ACTV would like to serve as a pilot program for a similar PEG upgrade. A membership drive has been discussed, but no timeline has yet been established." Preston moved as amended, Mercurio seconded, approved unanimously.

5. BUSINESS

A. Conference with Fortis Telecom - Discussion of Wireless solutions for Municipalities

In a 4:40-5:30 teleconference call, Peter Oliver, President, Fortis Telecom and David Little, business development with Fortis, described the Fortis business model and their recent work with City of Folsom to provide WiMAX capabilities. Fortis had been referred to the Commission by Brent Smith, CEO, Sierra Economic Development Corp., during the Commission's meeting of February 11, 2010.

Fortis aims to provide (or replace) the "last mile" of fiber optic and/or coaxial cable broadband in medium-size service areas that get "lack of attention from the big guys." Projected monthly subscriber costs are estimated at \$280 for 6 Mb/s up to \$700-\$800 for 20 Mb/s connectivity, including allocated backhaul fees. Each base station would serve ~100 customers. Fortis has not discussed their offerings with Wave or other cable providers but commented that the Fortis system could extend a cable operator's service territory without stringing/laying more cable.

Fortis' FCC classification is "VoIP interconnect" - i.e., they are not a telecommunications carrier. Their corporate evolution has been as a VoIP-based phone company, so "high reliability is a built-in mentality." Their base station draws only 25 W, so an 8-hour uninterruptible power supply is economical. Beyond eight hours they rely on an on-site generator.

Fortis commented that Alvarion is a leading provider of IEEE 802.16e standard equipment, and that Cisco is abandoning the WiMAX business.

ACTION: Chairman Tonkin will email a request for follow-up information from Fortis:

- * What other cities is Fortis dealing with, and what is the status?
- * Any available written presentation materials
- * Information from any Auburn area needs surveys

B. Review 4th Quarter 2009 Cable Franchise and PEG fee payments

Commission reviewed 4Q2009 payment information. Only outstanding issue is the old 399-subscriber

discrepancy between Starstream's last report and Wave's first report after taking over the franchise (see Item G.).

ACTION: Chairman Tonkin will prepare the quarterly status report to the city.

C. Status report, High speed data access to the Airport

A special Commission meeting was set for Tuesday, March 18, with Wave Broadband representatives to learn their plans for extension of service to the Auburn airport. (See Item 8)

D. Surveillance cameras - Investigate viable options for multiuse scenarios by the Police and/or website. Capt. Ruffcorn is the Police Department contact.

ACTION: Commissioner Mercurio will follow up with Capt. Ruffcorn.

E. Google Fiber for Cities - Investigate opportunity and the necessary resources for the City of Auburn to respond to RFI. Commission's concern is that City has little to gain from the Google initiative, given current high-speed offerings available from Wave Broadband.

* Based on information in the Google RFI, City is unqualified to respond, notably in population to be served (too little) and existing broadband service (too much).

* City time and effort required to respond is unlikely to be rewarded.

ACTION: Commissioner Schredl will draft Commission recommendation to City Manager for use in reporting to City Council.

F. Status report, City Emergency Center

Still uncertain whether the City's existing "Emergency Center" was used in the 49 Fire response.

ACTION: Commissioner Owens to continue follow-up with Chief D'Ambrogio.

G. Action Items outstanding

Commissioner Tonkin to forward final statement from Starstream and initial statement from WAVE. Records have not been accessed yet.

ACTION: Commissioner Schredl to contact Andy Heath and get/copy the relevant statements from City Finance Dept.

H. ACTV Update

Chairman Tonkin summarized progress in developing Airport Business Park promotions, an ACTV membership campaign, soliciting a reseller quote for equipment upgrades, and underwriting from one or more computer/electronics retailers.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

7. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS

None.

8. AGENDA ITEMS, DATE, AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Special meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 18, 2010, 10:00-11:30 a.m. at Auburn City Hall, 1225 Lincoln Way, Room 10, second floor.

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 8, 2010, 4:30 p.m., at Auburn City Hall, 1225 Lincoln Way, Room 10, second floor.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned 6:52 p.m.